

PILMETERIC L WOODMANNA: STAMPS
25¢ NEWSFAPSE
+ PERIODICA

DRAWER 21

STAMP - LINDEN

71.2009.085.05603



Philately

25¢ Newspaper & Periodical Stamp

Excerpts from newspapers and other
sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

Aug. 1956

were thirty-eight. Some of the statesmen present had been prisoners of war in 1866, now they were members of Congress. President Chester A. Arthur, Cyrus W. Field, George William Curtis, Henry James, William E. Chandler, Stephen B. Elkins, William B. Allison, John Sherman and William McKinley among others were in the audience.

Secretary Blaine allowed one controversial note to crowd into his eulogy—yet one writer has said that “it would have been a miracle, almost, if Mr. Blaine had succeeded in avoiding it.” The discordant note was that while General Garfield was with the Army of the Cumberland he “found various troubles already well developed and seriously affecting the value and efficiency of the army.” General William S. Rosecrans immediately challenged this statement the following day in the newspapers.

A portion of Blaine’s eulogy which portrays the speaker as a master of oratorical art is as follows:

“Great in life, he was surpassingly great in death. For no cause, in the very frenzy of wantonness and wickedness, by the red hand of murder, he was thrust from the full tide of this world’s interest, from its hopes, its aspirations, its victories, into the visible presence of death—and he did not quail. Not alone for the one short moment in which, stunned and dazed, he could give up life, hardly aware of its relinquishment, but through days of deadly languor, through weeks of agony that was not less agony because silently borne, with clear sight and calm courage, he looked into his open grave.

“What blight and ruin met his anguished eyes, whose lips may tell? What brilliant broken plans, what baffled high ambitions, what sundering of strong, warm manhood’s friendships, what bitter rending of sweet household ties? Behind him a proud, expectant nation; a great host of sustaining friends; a cherished and happy mother, wearing the full rich honors of her early toils and tears; the wife of his youth, whose whole life lay in his; the little boys not yet emerged from childhood’s day of frolic; the fair young daughter; the sturdy sons just springing into closest companionship, claiming every day and every day rewarding a father’s love and care; and in his heart the eager, rejoicing power to meet all demand. Before him desolation and great darkness. And his soul was not shaken.

“His countrymen were thrilled with instant, profound, and universal sympathy. Masterful in his mortal weakness he became the center of a nation’s love, enshrined in the prayers of a world. But all the love and all the sympathy could not share with him his suffering. He trod the wine press alone. With unfaltering front he faced death. With unfailing tenderness he took leave of life. Above the demoniac hiss of the assassin’s bullet he heard the voice of God. With simple resignation he bowed to the divine decree.”

Again the month of February (27), 1902 was chosen as the most appropriate time to eulogize a martyred president. John Hay’s eulogy on McKinley was temperate and dignified, and no criticisms were taken of the dead president’s foreign policy. The audience was one of great distinction with President Theodore Roosevelt and Prince Henry of Prussia in attendance. Three paragraphs of the eulogy follow:

“For the third time the Congress of the United States are assembled to commemorate the life and the death of a President slain by the hand of an assassin. The attention of the future historian will be attracted to the features which reappear with startling sameness in all three of these awful crimes: the uselessness, the utter lack of consequence, of the act; the obscurity, the insignificance, of the criminal; the blamelessness—so far as in the sphere of our existence the best of men may be held blameless—of the victim.

“The man who fills a great station in a period of change, who leads his country successfully through a time of crisis; who, by his power of persuading and controlling others, has been able to command the best thoughts of his age, so as to leave his country in a

(Continued on page 4)

FIRST LINCOLN POSTAGE STAMP

The first Lincoln postage stamp was designed to be used in the mailing of newspapers and periodicals. It was issued in the September quarter of 1865 and was terminated about February 1, 1869.

This series appeared in the 5 (blue), 10 (green) and 25 (red) cent denominations which are all alike in general style, being 2 and 3¼ inches in dimensions. The five cent stamp features George Washington in a circular medallion, the ten cent Benjamin Franklin is an ellipse, while the twenty-five cent Lincoln is a parallelogram with clipped corners ⅞ by 1⅜ inches.

The 25 cent stamp has in the upper corners and along the sides Arabic numbers. The letters “U. S.” appear near the top in a horizontal line. Immediately below appears the word “postage” in a curved line. The lathe work around the medallion portrait has been described as a “misty style of engraving.”

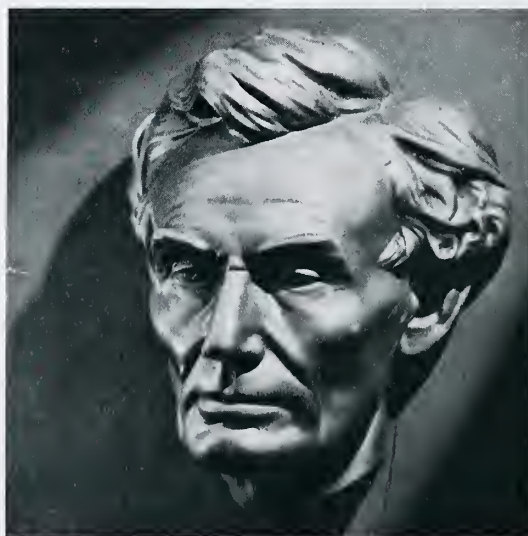
Below the tablet are the words “Twenty-Five Cents” representing the denomination, and the words “News-papers and Periodicals” in three lines. Following this is “Sec. 38, Act of Congress Approved March 3d 1863.” Below the border line is a heavy white line and at the bottom in very small type, are the words, “National Bank Note Company, New York.”

These stamps were issued to be purchased by publishers so that they could mail their publications where payment in money could not be transacted and the postage could not be collected at the point of destination. (See “A Description of United States Postage Stamps”, Post Office Department, Washington, 1937, pages 5 & 7).



U. S. Periodical 25c

THE VOLK HEAD OF LINCOLN NO. 2



With the completion of the Lincoln mask Leonard W. Volk immediately proceeded to sculpture a head. Both ears were perfectly taken in the making of the mask and Volk added eyes and hair to give the study a life-like appearance. All the while Lincoln continued to visit the studio for sittings.

With considerable progress being made in sculpturing the head, Lincoln asked Volk if he could bring some of

(Continued on page 4)

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